

HOLMES HAD SHARP KNIVES AND SAWS

They Were Sharpened Just Before
Howard Pietzel Died.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 2.—Albert Schiffing, an expert instrument maker of this city, met H. H. Holmes Oct. 3, 1894. Holmes called at his place of business that day, with two cases of instruments. The cases were of brown morocco leather. One case contained two knives and a saw. The knives were quite sharp, pointed at the ends, and the blades bore a few dark spots. In shape they resembled ordinary carving knives. The saw was of very fine make, and fifteen inches in length. The other case was much smaller, and contained, according to Mr. Schiffing's recollection, eight knives, of various sizes and shapes.

Holmes asked Schiffing to sharpen all the knives, saying that he would return for them the next day. With him on this occasion was the boy, Howard Pietzel, and a strange man with a beard. Holmes did not call the next day, but returned Oct. 8, and secured the instruments. On the last visit Howard Pietzel was again with Holmes, but the strange man was not. Holmes seemed to be in a hurry, paid for the work, and left at once. These knives were doubtless used to dismember young Pietzel before his body was burned in the Irvington house.

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